Amendment dated November 7, 2003

Reply to Office Action mailed August 12, 2003

## **AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

## **Listing of Claims:**

- (Currently Amended) A clamp for clamping an elongate member comprising in combination:
  - a housing for receiving the elongate member;
  - a saddle member movably mounted relative to the housing;
- a lever cooperating with the housing for moving the saddle member relative to the housing; and

an engaging surface for engaging the elongate member; and

a clamping surface adaptive to receive a tensioning tool.

- = 2. (Currently Amended) The clamp of claim 1A clamp for clamping an elongate member comprising in combination:
  - a housing for receiving the elongate member;
  - a saddle member movably mounted relative to the housing;
- <u>a lever cooperating with the housing for moving the saddle member relative to the housing</u>, wherein the lever cooperates with a housing cam surface on the housing, the housing cam surface having at least two discrete surface areas; and

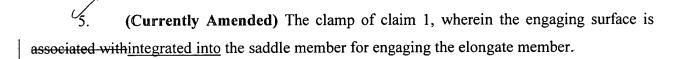
an engaging surface for engaging the elongate member.

- Original) The clamp of claim 2, wherein the housing cam surface defines at least two lever locking positions for engaging the elongate member.
- 4. (Currently Amended) The clamp of claim 1, wherein the lever is pivotably directly attached to the saddle member.



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- 6. (Currently Amended) The clamp of claim 1, wherein the engaging surface is associated with integrated into the housing. for housing for engaging the elongate member.
- 7. (Currently Amended) The clamp of claim 1, wherein engaging surfaces are associated with integrated into both the saddle member and the housing for engaging the elongate member.
- 8. (Original) The clamp of claim 1 wherein the engaging surface is formed to engage at least a portion of a periphery of the elongate member.

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- 9. (Original) The clamp of claim 1 wherein at least a portion of a lengthwise cross-section of the engaging surface is non-linear.
- 10. (Currently Amended) The clamp of claim 1 wherein at least a portion of a widthwise cross-section of the engaging surface is concavethe clamping surfaced is barrel shaped.
- $\sqrt{11}$ . (Original) The clamp of claim 1 wherein the lever is pivotably attached to the saddle member in a slot, the slot being formed in the saddle member and having at least two distinct positions allowing the lever to pivot from at least two positions.
- ≥ 12. (Currently Amended) A clamp for clamping an elongate member comprising in combination:

a housing for receiving the elongate member;

a saddle member movably mounted relative to the housing;





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a lever cooperating with the housing for moving the saddle member relative to the housing. The clamp of claim 1 wherein the lever is pivotably attached to the saddle member in a slot, the slot being formed in the lever and having at least two distinct positions allowing the lever to pivot from at least two positions; and

an engaging surface for engaging the elongate member.

- 13. (Currently Amended) A clamp for clamping an elongate member comprising in combination:
  - a housing for receiving the elongate member;
  - a platen movably mounted relative to the housing;
  - a lever cooperating with the platen for moving the platen relative to the housing; and
  - an engaging surface for engaging the elongate member; and
  - a clamping surface adaptive to receive a tensioning tool.
- ≥ 14. (Currently Amended) A clamp for clamping an elongate member comprising in combination:
  - a housing for receiving the elongate member;
  - a platen movably mounted relative to the housing;
- a lever cooperating with the platen for moving the platen relative to the housing The elamp of claim 13, wherein the lever includes a lever cam surface having at least one facet cooperating with the platen; and

an engaging surface for engaging the elongate member.

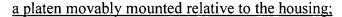
- ⇒15. (Original) The clamp of claim 14, wherein the lever cam surface defines at least one lever locking position for engaging the elongate member.
- >16. (Currently Amended) A clamp for clamping an elongate member comprising in combination:

a housing for receiving the elongate member;



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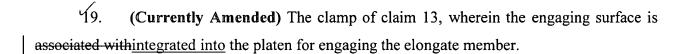
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a lever cooperating with the platen for moving the platen relative to the housing The elamp of claim 13, wherein the lever cooperates with at least a portion of a platen cam surface on the platen, the platen cam surface being nonplanar in at least a portion of its surface area; and

an engaging surface for engaging the elongate member.

- = 17. (Original) The clamp of claim 16, wherein the platen cam surface defines at least two lever locking positions for engaging the elongate member.
- 18. (Original) The clamp of claim 13, wherein the lever is pivotably attached to the housing.



- 1/20. (Currently Amended) The clamp of claim 13, wherein the engaging surface is associated withintegrated into the housing for engaging the elongate member.
- 21. (Currently Amended) The clamp of claim 13, wherein engaging surfaces are associated withintegrated into both the platen and the housing for engaging the elongate member.
- $\sqrt{22}$ . (Original) The clamp of claim 13 wherein the engaging surface is formed to engage at least a portion of a periphery of the elongate member.
- 23. (Original) The clamp of claim 13 wherein at least a portion of a lengthwise cross-section of the engaging surface is non-linear.



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- 24. (Currently Amended) The clamp of claim 13 wherein at least a portion of a widthwise cross-section of the engaging surface is concavethe clamping surfaced is barrel shaped.
- =25. (Currently Amended) A clamp for clamping an elongate member comprising in combination:

a housing for receiving the elongate member;

a platen movably mounted relative to the housing;

a lever cooperating with the platen for moving the platen relative to the housing The elamp of claim 13, wherein at least one spring suspends the platen when the lever is in an open, unengaged, position; and

an engaging surface for engaging the elongate member.

- ≈ 27. (Currently Amended) A clamp for clamping an elongate member comprising in combination:

a housing for receiving the elongate member;

a platen movably mounted relative to the housing;

a lever cooperating with the platen for moving the platen relative to the housing. The elamp of claim 13 wherein the lever is pivotably attached to the housing member in a slot, the slot being formed in the housing and having at least two distinct positions allowing the lever to pivot from at least two positions; and

an engaging surface for engaging the elongate member.

- <sup>2</sup> 28. (Currently Amended) A clamp for clamping an elongate member comprising in combination:
  - a housing for receiving the elongate member;





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a platen movably mounted relative to the housing;

a lever cooperating with the platen for moving the platen relative to the housing, The elamp of claim 13 wherein the lever is pivotably attached to the housing member in a slot, the slot being formed in the lever and having at least two distinct positions allowing the lever to pivot from at least two positions; and

an engaging surface for engaging the elongate member.

- 29. (Currently Amended) A clamp for clamping an elongate member comprising in combination:
  - a housing for receiving the elongate member;
  - a saddle member movably mounted relative to the housing;
  - a platen movably mounted relative to the housing;
- a lever cooperating with the platen for moving the saddle member and platen relative to the housing; and

an engaging surface for engaging the elongate member; and

a clamping surface adaptive to receive a tensioning tool.

- - a housing for receiving the elongate member;
  - a saddle member movably mounted relative to the housing;
  - a platen movably mounted relative to the housing;
- a lever cooperating with the platen for moving the saddle member and platen relative to the housing The clamp of claim 29, wherein the lever includes a lever cam surface having at least one facet cooperating with the platen; and

an engaging surface for engaging the elongate member.

≈ 31. (Original) The clamp of claim 30, wherein the lever cam surface defines at least one lever locking position for engaging the elongate member.



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- z 32. (Currently Amended) A clamp for clamping an elongate member comprising in combination:
  - a housing for receiving the elongate member;
  - a saddle member movably mounted relative to the housing;
  - a platen movably mounted relative to the housing;
- a lever cooperating with the platen for moving the saddle member and platen relative to the housing The clamp of claim 29, wherein the lever cooperates with at least a portion of a platen cam surface on the platen, the platen cam surface being nonplanar in at least a portion of its surface area; and

an engaging surface for engaging the elongate member.



- 33. (Original) The clamp of claim 32, wherein the platen cam surface defines at least two lever locking positions for engaging the elongate member.
- = 34. (Currently Amended) A clamp for clamping an elongate member comprising in combination:
  - a housing for receiving the elongate member;
  - a saddle member movably mounted relative to the housing;
  - a platen movably mounted relative to the housing;
- a lever cooperating with the platen for moving the saddle member and platen relative to the housing The clamp of claim 29, wherein the lever is pivotably attached to the saddle member; and

an engaging surface for engaging the elongate member.

(Currently Amended) The clamp of claim 29, wherein the engaging surface is integrated into associated with the platen for engaging the elongate member.



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- 36. (Currently Amended) The clamp of claim 29, wherein the engaging surface is integrated into associated with the saddle member for engaging the elongate member.
- 37. (Currently Amended) The clamp of claim 29, wherein engaging surfaces are associated with integrated into both the platen and the saddle member for engaging the elongate member.
- 38. (Original) The clamp of claim 29, wherein the engaging surface is formed to engage at least a portion of a periphery of the elongate member.
- <sup>3</sup>39. (Original) The clamp of claim 29, wherein at least a portion of a lengthwise cross-section of the engaging surface is non-linear.
- 40. (Currently Amended) The clamp of claim 29, wherein at least a portion of a widthwise cross-section of the engaging surface is concavethe clamping surfaced is barrel shaped.
- = 41. (Currently Amended) A clamp for clamping an elongate member comprising in combination:
  - a housing for receiving the elongate member;
  - a saddle member movably mounted relative to the housing;
  - a platen movably mounted relative to the housing;
- a lever cooperating with the platen for moving the saddle member and platen relative to the housing The claim 29, wherein at least one spring suspends the platen when the lever is in an open, unengaged, position; and
  - an engaging surface for engaging the elongate member.
- ₹ 42. (Original) The clamp of claim 41, wherein the spring includes any number, variety and combination of coil spring, leaf spring or resilient chemical compound.

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43. (Original) The clamp of claim 29 wherein the lever is pivotably attached to the saddle member in a slot, the slot being formed in the saddle member and having at least two distinct positions allowing the lever to pivot from at least two positions.

744. (Currently Amended) A clamp for clamping an elongate member comprising in combination:

a housing for receiving the elongate member;

a saddle member movably mounted relative to the housing;

a platen movably mounted relative to the housing;

a lever cooperating with the platen for moving the saddle member and platen relative to the housing. The clamp of claim 29 wherein the lever is pivotably attached to the saddle member in a slot, the slot being formed in the lever and having at least two distinct positions allowing the lever to pivot from at least two positions; and

an engaging surface for engaging the elongate member.

45. (Original) A clamp for clamping an elongate member comprising in combination:
a housing for receiving the elongate member;
a saddle member movably mounted relative to the housing;
an engaging surface for engaging a the elongate member; and
means for selectively moving the saddle member relative to the housing.

46. (Original) A clamp for clamping an elongate member comprising in combination: a housing for receiving the elongate member; a platen movably mounted relative to the housing; an engaging surface for engaging the elongate member; and means for selectively moving the platen relative to the housing.

47. (Original) A clamp for clamping an elongate member comprising in combination:





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- a housing for receiving the elongate member; a platen movably mounted relative to the housing;
- a saddle member movable mounted relative to the housing;
- an engaging surface for engaging the elongate member; and

means for selectively moving the platen and saddle member relative to the housing.

- 48. (Original) A clamp for clamping an elongate member comprising in combination: a housing for receiving the elongate member; and means for engaging a substantial periphery of the elongate member.
- = 49. (Currently Amended) A clamp for clamping an elongate member comprising in combination:

a housing for receiving the elongate member; and

- a means for engaging the elongate member in at least two positions; and
- a clamping surface adaptive to receive a tensioning tool.
- 50. (Withdrawn) A method of clamping an elongate member in a medical device comprising in combination the steps of:

inserting an end of the elongate member into a clamping device; and

applying a clamping force to the elongate member using the clamping device and in so doing, engaging a periphery of the elongate member.

> 51. (Original) A method of clamping an elongate member in a medical device comprising in combination the steps of:

inserting an end of the elongate member into a clamping device; and applying a clamping force to the elongate member through a saddle member.

\*52. (Original) A method of clamping an elongate member using a medical device comprising in combination the steps of:

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inserting an end of the elongate member into a clamping device; and applying a clamping force to the elongate member through a platen.

inserting an end of the elongate member into a clamping device;

applying a clamping force to the elongate member by moving a lever to a first engaging position; and

applying a second clamping force to the elongate member by moving the lever to a second engaging position.

≈ 54. (Currently Amended) A method of clamping an elongate member in a medical device comprising in combination the steps of:

inserting an end of the elongate member through the body of a cable tensioner and clamping device housing;

applying a clamping force to the elongate member <u>through a saddle memberusing the</u> elamping device and in so doing, engaging a periphery of the elongate member; and

using the cable tensioner to apply tension to the elongate member.

55. (New) A method of clamping and elongate member in a medical device comprising in combination the steps of:

inserting an end of the elongate member through the body of a cable tensioner and clamping device housing;

applying a clamping force to the elongated member though a platen; and using the cable tensioner to apply tension to the elongate member.